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SOURCE Newspapers as indicated.

REVEALS SHORTAGE OF CONSUMERS' GOODS;
NEEDLES, COMBS TO BE PRODUCED

MARKETS LACK SEASONAL GOODS -- Zagreb, Vjesnik, 25 May 51

According to information from the largest consumer markets in Croatia, the lack of seasonal textile products and summer footwear is noticeable everywhere. There is great demand for men's shirts with short sleeves, which are either not available at all or only in very small quantities. Lately, heavy winter hose have been available instead of light cotton or lisle hose. Cloth for men's underwear is mostly poplin in only one color and is therefore not salable. Poplin with a design and other lightweight materials for pajamas are in demand. A sufficient amount of flannel in two colors is available now.

Most cities lack seasonal cotton cloth and cretonne for dresses; when either are available, they are mostly in one color only. Other kinds of cotton cloth for women's dresses are available in small quantities. The demand has increased for cotton lining, which is not available at all.

Large quantities of wool cloth for winter coats have been left over in the markets, but there is very little cloth for suits or women's coats and dresses. Larger quantities of wool knitwear, such as pullovers, were left over.

Industry failed to produce sufficient quantities of summer shoes, especially men's and women's sandals, the supply of which is so small that not even minimum needs can be met. The most critical need is in children's footwear, for not enough care is given to producing quality goods. Shoes from plastic leather are being produced while consumer demand is for shoes made of box leather in various colors, and not just black.

DEMAND FOR CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS INCREASES -- Zagreb, Vjesnik, 25 May 51

Since construction material was placed on the free market, the demand for it, especially for bricks, has increased. Persons who contracted to deliver construction materials to small and large building sites come as formerly, but,

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in addition, individuals who wish to obtain construction material for themselves also came. Many of the latter are turned away with the statement that bricks meant for consumers' goods must be sold through the markets and not directly to consumers.

NEW COMB FACTORY UNDER CONSTRUCTION -- Belgrade, Republika, 22 May 51

Machine installations are being assembled for the newly built comb factory in Buzet. Oxen horns will be used as raw materials. About 20 combs can be made from the horns of a pair of oxen.

NEEDLE FACTORY PUT IN OPERATION -- Belgrade, Republika, 22 May 51

The new needle factory in Kobarid was recently put in operation. At first the factory will make sewing machine needles, later, needles for hand sewing will be made.

When the factory is in full operation, it is to produce 5,000 needles a day. It is also to produce razor sharpeners, dental instruments, ladies' pocketbooks, eating equipment, etc.

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